

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2003/08/19 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100020061-9

25X1

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE	COI	ACP	TOG	TPE	MRO	TRI
SCM	0	0	0	0	0	

PAGES

CLASSIFICATION

CIA / DCI / WHIZ 740226

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/HUSS

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
	3	6	9	12

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR McMANIS,
 STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION
 CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR MR JOHN YEO.

25X1

FLD
48

ITEM NO: 23

DATE: 26 FEB 74

SUBJECT: MILITARY STRIKE IN ASMARA, ETHIOPIA

25X1 REF: [REDACTED]

ENLISTED MEN, NCO'S, AND SOME JUNIOR OFFICERS OF THE ETHIOPIAN SECOND DIVISION AND THE SECOND AIR GROUP IN ASMARA HAVE GONE ON STRIKE AND PLACED THEIR SENIOR OFFICERS UNDER RESTRAINT. THE ACTION STEMS MAINLY FROM PAY GRIEVANCES AND IS NOT AT PRESENT DESIGNED TO USURP CIVILIAN AUTHORITY. THE TROOPS HAVE NOT MOVED AGAINST THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, AND THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE.

2 DISSATISFACTION IS RIFE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE UNREST COULD EASILY SPREAD TO OTHER UNITS.

25X1

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

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ALTHOUGH NO CENTRAL DIRECTION IS EVIDENT IN THE RSPATE OF UNREST IN BOTH THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SECTORS IN ETHIOPIA, THERE HAS BEEN--FOR THE FIRST TIME--CONSIDERABLE COLLABORATION AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN DISAFFECTION ELEMENTS. STRIKING SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HAVE HELD MEETINGS WITH SOLDIERS, AND THE STUDENTS HAVE CIRCULATED PAMPHLETS SUPPORTING THE ARMY'S DEMANDS. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN ASMARA WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS ABABA TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE STRIKING TROOPS. THE GOVERNMENT EARLIER THIS WEEK TOOK STEPS TO END GENERAL PUBLIC UNREST BY ANNOUNCING STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF PRICE CONTROLS AND A REDUCTION IN GASOLINE PRICES. BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS WILL MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS DIFFICULT.

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THEFT IS EVIDENCE HAILE SELASSIE IS RECEIVING DIVIDED COUNSEL
 ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION. WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE
 HIERARCHY URGING THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW PRIME MINISTER AND
 CABINET MORE COMMITTED TO SIGNIFICANT REFORM. -E-R IMPDET.H

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 DATE:
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 CLASSIFICATION
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